<u>J C BOATRIGHT</u> 1395 N Falkenburg Road <u>Tampa, FL 33619</u>

January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to you today in support of the settlement that was reached in the Microsoft antitrust dispute. I believe that this case needs to come to a close, and indeed, never should have been brought in the first place.

The settlement is reasonable, under its terms Microsoft will disclose information about the internal interface of its Windows operating system, this will enable its competitors to create new products that will work within the system. Microsoft will also design all future versions of Windows to be compatible with the products of other companies. Finally Microsoft will not engage in predatory business tactics, or exact revenge against any of its competitors. The company will be monitored the by a government appointed technical committee which will ensure that Microsoft complies with the terms of this settlement.

Microsoft is one of this nations greatest corporate assets. Attacking this company will not benefit the U.S. economy, the IT industry, or the American consumer. Thank you for doing all that is within your power to see this settlement pass. Thank you for your consideration of my position.

Sincerely,

J.C. Boatright